

# CalWORKs Bulletin

July 6, 1998

California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs

Issue 4

## Q & A's

**Q** What are the key points to consider when trying to design and establish the duration of AOD treatment services for CalWORKs recipients?

**A** The duration of AOD treatment services is a clinical decision, however, a key point to consider for program design is contained in Section 11325.8(d) of the Welfare and Institutions Code which says that "No recipient may participate in a substance abuse treatment program for longer than six months without concurrently participating in a work activity . . ." with the exception of residential treatment and intensive day treatment programs.

**Q** Why can't ADP institute a service function code for CalWORKs Drug/Medi-Cal claiming purposes, rather than requiring submittal of separate claims?

**A** Currently, there are no new codes available from the Department of Health Services (DHS) and, at this time, no possibility that DHS could institute a programming change to their system which would be required to accept a new service function code.

**Q** Can CalWORKs funds be used for adolescent treatment?

**A** Yes. If the adolescent's substance abuse problem is creating a barrier for the parent recipient in obtaining and retaining employment, CalWORKs can fund the adolescent's treatment.

**Q** Can the employment plan (welfare-to-work plan) be modified, if the initial plan does not identify substance abuse problems, however, problems are identified at a later date?

**A** Yes. There is no prohibition on modifying the employment plan.

**Q** Is there any information available regarding the development or use of multi-agency release of information forms for CalWORKs clients?

**A** Yes. Some counties are using multi-agency or universal release of information forms for CalWORKs clients. See the following sample form being used

by Mendocino County as a referral document and a release of information document.

**Q** If a CalWORKs recipient has lost custody of his/her children and is no longer receiving cash aid, can they be treated (AOD services) using CalWORKs funds for the purpose of reuniting the family?

**A** No.

### Job Alliance Referral to ADDP for Assessment and/or Services

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

As required in your Welfare to Work Plan and as discussed with your Job Alliance Employment Services Representative, you are referred to the Mendocino County Department of Public Health Alcohol and Other Drug Programs (ADDP).

Willits - 72 W. Commercial  
Ukiah - 302 Henry  
Fort Bragg - 120 W. Fir

I hereby give my permission for the Mendocino County Division of Alcohol and Other Drug Programs (ADDP) and Mendocino Department of Social Services Job Alliance program to discuss the assessment, attendance, participation, and progress in the evaluation process or in treatment, if required.

This consent shall be effective until: One year from date signed, (or until the final disposition of the case, if appropriate).

This Release of Information has been authorized by myself on \_\_\_\_\_  
Date this Release is signed

Signature of Participant

Signature of Job Alliance Worker

### AODP OFFICE USE ONLY/Response to Job Alliance

- ☐ Failed To Contact
- ☐ Contact Made On \_\_\_\_\_ but failed to attend
- ☐ Attachment Included
- ☐ Assessment completed
- ☐ Treatment recommended, schedule attached
- ☐ Please call me to discuss coordination of Welfare to Work Plan activities

AODP Signature

Date

Phone

Original to AODP

Copy to Participant

Copy to JA Case File

MCDSS JA 49 (3-98)

Attachment 1

*"I didn't realize things weren't working because of my drinking. I thought I was drinking because things weren't working."  
- A former Oregon welfare recipient currently in recovery and working*

## Don't Miss This . . .

The first CalWORKs Partnerships Conference will be held December 15-17, 1998 in San Diego. The focus of the conference is California's workforce preparation system which includes job creation efforts, education and training, and supportive service delivery for CalWORKs recipients. For more information, contact the conference coordinators: Jeff Fontana at (530) 538-7364 or Anne Steinberger at (619) 292-2900, ext. 321.

## Los Angeles County CalWORKs

The following flow chart depicts the Los Angeles county CalWORKs process. Some of the components of the program are:

- Fourteen interdepartmental workgroups were established to implement the various components of CalWORKs within Los Angeles county.
- The LA County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) developed a CalWORKs general information brochure as an outreach tool to CalWORKs recipients. A substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence brochure is currently being drafted.
- A Welfare Reform Hotline was instituted which provides regular updates on implementation, legislation and advocacy meetings.
- The total LA County AFDC caseload is 250,000. It is estimated that 150,000 of those families will require transition to welfare to work activities by January 1, 1999. The remaining 100,000 will be exempt from welfare to work activities (i.e., child only cases, etc.).
- LA County will utilize the ASI as a standard assessment tool for substance abuse.
- LA County estimates that an average wage of \$7.82 per hour is necessary to attain self-sufficiency.

## If you want to know who received \$\$s . . .

Check out the Department of Labor (DOL) web site: [www.doleta.gov](http://www.doleta.gov) for a complete list of welfare-to-work grant proposals which were funded by the DOL. California had 11 proposals funded for a total of approximately \$40 million.

## And the Winner Is . . .

Children and Family Futures (CFF) is the recipient of the CalWORKs Technical Assistance contract with ADP. CFF will be coordinating five statewide forums, as well as providing technical assistance to providers and counties beginning July 1, 1998. If you haven't already, begin thinking about your CalWORKs technical assistance needs.

